Activation

This subsection covers the following topics:

- Activating a Job Network or Job
- Terminology
- Automatic Activation
- Manual Activation

Activating a Job Network or Job

Activating a job network or job means preparing it for execution. On activation, the following is performed:

- The definitions of jobs, networks, logical conditions, symbol tables etc. are copied to the Entire Operations active data base and assigned a unique run number;
- If necessary, Symbol Prompting is requested. However, symbol prompting is not performed for any subnetworks.
- The global activation exit user routine is invoked, if defined in the Entire Operations defaults;
- The JCL defined for jobs within the network is copied to the Active JCL storage on the active data base;
- Variables (symbols) used in dynamically generated JCL are substituted by their current values. This does not apply to variables defined to be substituted at job submission time;
- The card definitions of active job networks, respectively of active jobs, can differ from the card definitions in the master definition. To allow this, the corresponding symbol tables must contain certain reserved symbols on activation. See also the subsection Predefined Symbols.
- If you use pre-generated JCL, symbol replacement is performed at the time of JCL generation.
- The Entire Operations Monitor recognizes the job network as active and checks time frames, input conditions and resources defined for the jobs. If all prerequisites for any jobs are fulfilled, these jobs are submitted.

Terminology

In this documentation and on the user interface, the terms "activation" and "network start/job start" are used.

- "Activation" denotes the process of creating an active copy of a network or job definition.
- "Network start/job start" denotes the actual execution start time of the activated/active job network or job.

Automatic Activation

Job networks are activated **automatically** in two steps:

- At the beginning of a new day or during Monitor startup, all schedules are checked for job networks to be executed during that day. This process is called **schedule extraction** and the data extracted are called the **activation trigger records**.
- The activation trigger records force job network activation a short time before the earliest start of the network. This time span can be defined in the Entire Operations defaults.

Notes:

1. If no earliest start time is defined on the network level, the network is activated immediately after schedule extraction.
2. The modification of a calendar or schedule always triggers a schedule extraction for the dependent job networks. For this reason, a job network could be activated even for the current day after such a modification.

Automatic Activation - Symbol Prompting

After the creation of an activation trigger record, active symbol tables are created for the specific network run. If there is at least one symbol marked as **to be prompted** within these active tables, a symbol prompt request is sent to the mailboxes of all users defined as message recipients for that network.

The network activation is kept in hold, until any user sees the request and enters or confirms the symbols to be prompted. For this reason, schedule extraction can be performed several days in advance. (See the subsection Global Activation Extraction in the section System Administrator Services of the Entire Operations Administration Documentation).

Manual Activation

It is also possible to activate a job network **manually** irrespective of any defined schedule. This may become necessary for a number of reasons, for example:

- No schedule has been defined for the job network;
- To override defined activation date and time;
- The job network is not scheduled for the required date.

A job network or job activation can also be triggered by any event within Entire Operations, for example by the termination of another job network or by the Entire Operations Application Programming Interface (API). Like manual activation, this can be performed at any time.

Symbol prompting for active symbols is also performed, when a job or network is activated manually, if at least one symbol of a symbol table used by the job or network is appropriately marked.